

# Cries of Victims Haunt Sole Survivor Of Airplane Crash

Williamsport, Pa. — (UPI) — Philadelphia. Louis Matarazzo had looked at his 21 fellow passengers with the usual mild curiosity when the plane took off from Philadelphia. Most of them were businessmen like himself. A couple of women passengers also were aboard the twin-engined



**SOLE SURVIVOR**—Louis Matarazzo, Springfield, Pa., the sole survivor of the Allegheny Airlines disaster near Williamsport, Pa., Tuesday, rests in Divine Providence hospital at Williamsport, attended by nurse Phyllis Colacino. Matarazzo is listed as in serious condition. —(UPI Telephoto)

Allegheny Airlines plane that was flying to points in Pennsylvania and Ohio. Matarazzo is the only one alive today. He lives in Divine Providence Hospital, the bandage over his injured eye unable to shut out the sight of the flaming crash against a mountainside.

The cries of the trapped and injured, and the dying, haunt the quiet hospital room. Why just me, is his thought. Why was I so lucky?

**Plane Cracks Open**  
He remembers the plane swinging away from the Williamsport-Montoursville Airport after an improper instrument approach. It rumbled into a 2,500-foot mountain killing the 25 others aboard.

"There was a crash . . . the plane burst and exploded," Matarazzo said. It was only an act of God, Matarazzo believes, that caused the plane to crack open by its side and allow him to stagger out on a wing. He walked along the wing through the flames and dropped

to the ground. "I could hear the other passengers screaming, but it was too hot to reach them," he said. **Stumbles Down Mountain**  
He stumbled down the snow-covered, rugged mountainside, slipped exhausted

## Kingsley Field Is Now Combat Ready

Klamath Falls—The 408th Fighter Group, Kingsley Field, became combat operational ready at 1 p.m. Monday, according to Col. Jack W. Williams, base commander.

Pilots and crews of the 322nd Fighter Interceptor Squadron, the newest link in the Air Defense Command's chain of bases, are now ready to protect this area of the west coast from air attack 24 hours a day.

The Air Force took over the field here in 1954, and starting in May this year, the F-101B Voodoo interceptor starting replacing the F86L

against a tree and began saying his prayers. Rescuers found him there. Two other passengers also were alive, but died on the way to the hospital in the long trip by stretcher out of the rugged woods. "Thank God, you're here,"

## MURPHY STEPS DOWN

Washington—(UPI)—The State Department's ace troubleshooter, Robert D. Murphy, steps down today as undersecretary of state for political affairs. He will be succeeded by Livingston T. Merchant. President Eisenhower named Merchant to the post Tuesday.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. 3  
Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1959

Matarazzo said to Father Francis P. Corcoran, a Roman Catholic priest who was one of the first to reach the scene to give last rites of the church to the victims. "I feel sorry for those other people," Matarazzo said. Rescue crews worked through the night to recover the charred bodies of the passengers who had sat beside him only hours before.

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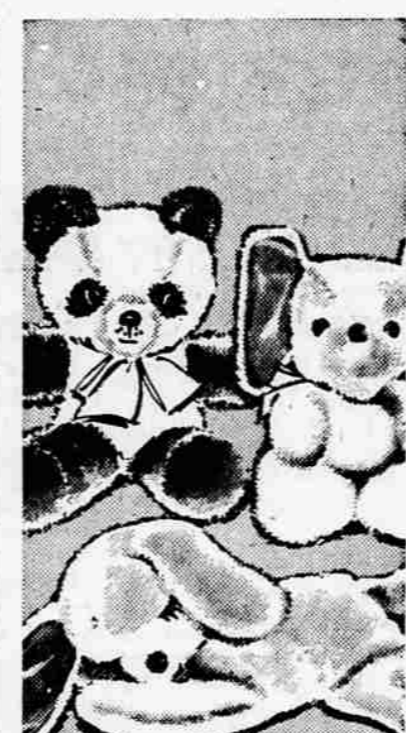
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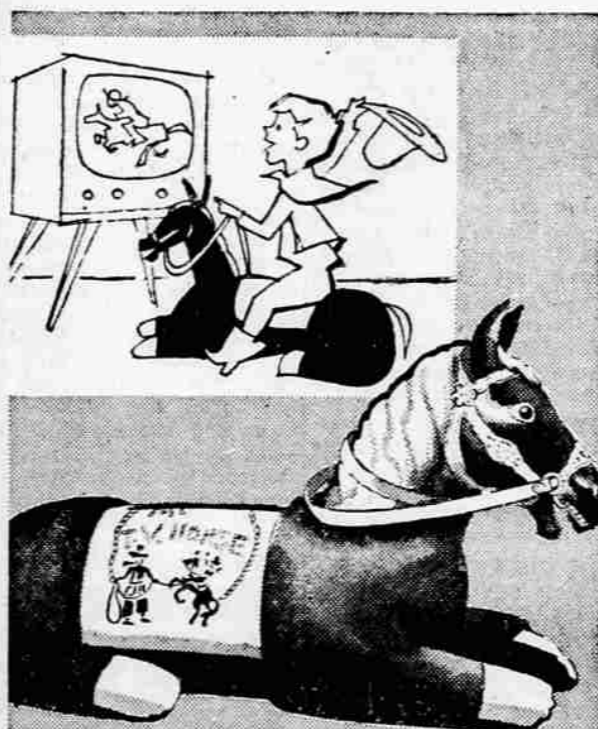
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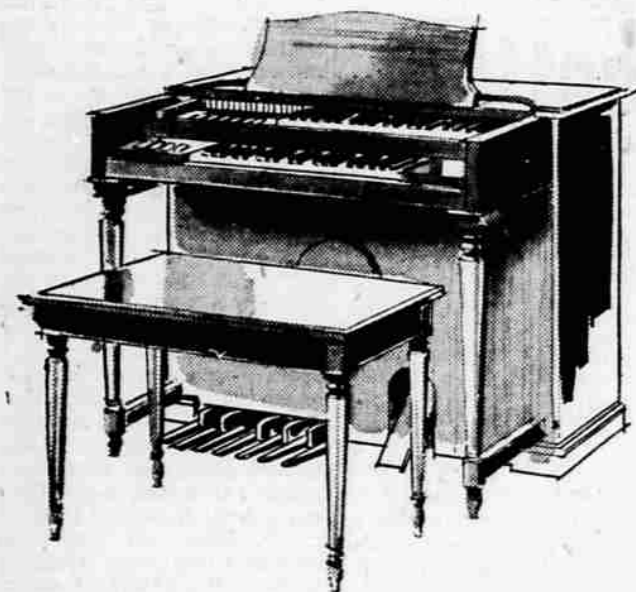


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